



PATENT  
Docket No. 55943 USA 1A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): ) Group Art Unit: 3652  
Serial No.: 09/677,805 ) Examiner: Unassigned  
Confirmation No.: )  
Filed: 2 October 2000 )  
For: SAMPLE PROCESSING APPARATUS, METHODS AND SYSTEMS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington D.C. 20231

Sir:

In compliance with the duty imposed by 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, and in accordance with C.F.R. §§ 1.97 *et. seq.*, the materials enclosed herewith are brought to the attention of the Examiner as possibly being of interest in connection with the above-identified patent application. Consideration of each of the documents listed on the attached 1449 form is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. §609, Applicants further request that a copy of the 1449 form, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, be returned with the next Official Communication.

Applicants also wish to bring the Examiner's attention to U.S. Application Serial No. 60/214,508, entitled THERMAL PROCESSING DEVICES AND METHODS, filed 28 June 2000, Serial No. 60/214642, entitled SAMPLE PROCESSING DEVICES, SYSTEMS AND METHODS, filed 28 June 2000, and Serial No. 60/237,151, entitled SAMPLE PROCESSING DEVICES, SYSTEMS AND METHODS, filed 2 October 2000, copies of which are provided herewith.

It is believed that no fee is due, as this Information Disclosure Statement is filed prior to the receipt of any Action on the merits. However, in the event a fee is due, please charge any fee or credit any overpayment to Account No. 13-4895.

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**Information Disclosure Statement**

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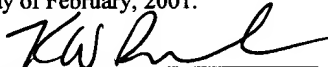
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The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' Representatives at the below-listed telephone number, if they can be of any assistance during prosecution of the present application.

**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8:**


The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper is being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 19th day of February, 2001.

  
Kevin W. Raasch

Respectfully submitted,

By their Representatives,  
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19 FEBRUARY 2001  
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